

Amendments to the Claims:

(amended) 1. A system for providing the transfer of and the controlled access to a version of an object and other associated information of a file by a plurality of users comprising:

a database for storing an object and associated information, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data, each group of data having associated access criteria for access to the groups of data;

an application server configured to control access to data stored in the database and to set up and send a document file having a representation of an object and associated documents that are stored in the database ;

a memory for storing software code for controlling the operation of the application server;

access data application code stored in the memory and executable by the application server, the application code being responsive to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within a version of an object and to predetermined modification privileges for allowing controlled access to modify individual groups of data contained within the version of the object ~~by an individual user that was set up to be sent to a user computer system~~ and that may be viewed by a user according to the user's predetermined modification privileges ~~on the user computer system~~.

(amended) 2. A system according to Claim 1, wherein the access data application code enables the ability of a user to read the contents of the transferred redacted version of the requested object that was sent by the application server according to access privileges associated with the user.

(amended) 3. A system according to Claim 2, wherein the access data application code includes the ability to modify the contents of the redacted version of the requested object.

(amended) 4. A system according to Claim 3, wherein the ability to modify includes the ability to delete information contained in the redacted version of the requested object.

(amended) 5. A system according to Claim 3, wherein the ability to modify includes the ability to add data to the redacted version of the requested object.

(amended) 6. A system according to Claim 1 wherein the access to the redacted version of the object is determined by a business relationship to produce products and defined by the host according to the need of information in the product chain, and wherein the transferred redacted version of the object is configured to reveal limited information according to a guest user's predetermined access privileges.

(amended) 7. A method of controlling access to objects stored in electronic form, comprising:

storing an object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data, each group of data having associated access criteria for access to the groups of data;

controlling the access to the database using an application server, ~~that is~~ configured to set up a redacted version of an object according to access criteria established for a user;

storing software code for controlling the operation of the CPU in memory;

transferring a redacted version of an object to a user in the form of a document file having the redacted version of the object and any associated documents requested by a user contained therein; and

allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the transferred version of the object by an individual user according to an individual user's predetermined privileges in response to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within the version of the redacted object transferred to the user and to a user's predetermined privileges.

(amended) 8. A method according to Claim 7 further comprising:

receiving an object request by a requestor;

verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria; and

transmitting a redacted version of an object configured to reveal information contained with in the redacted version of the object according to the requestor's user privilege access criteria.

(amended) 9. A method according to Claim 7, ~~wherein~~ further comprising establishing a version of an object ~~includes by~~ loading information into the version of the object into separate groups having separate access privilege criteria.

(amended) 10. Cancel Claim 10.

(amended) 11. A method according to Claim ~~7~~ 8, wherein verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria includes extracting the requestor's user identification from the object

request, verifying the requestor's user identification and identifying the groups of data within the version of the object to which the requestor has access.

(amended) 12. A method according to Claim 7, further comprising transmitting a redacted version of an object by sending an electronic object to the requestor that contains the groups of information to which the requestor has access to and that excludes groups of information associated with an object that is redacted so that ~~to which the requestor does not~~ have has limited access.

(amended) 13. A computer program product for use with a computer system, a central processing unit and means coupled to the central processing unit for storing a database to automatically manage objects for viewing and marking an object having varying formats without the use of any originating application of a file to view the object, comprising:

computer readable code means for establishing an object in a storage location;

computer readable code means for identifying a user to have limited access to information associated with the object;

computer readable code means for establishing privilege access criteria that define the scope of access of a version of the object for the user;

computer readable code means for receiving an object request by a requestor;

computer readable code means for verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria;

and

computer readable code means for transmitting a redacted version of the requested object in the form of a redacted document that masks information according to the requestor's user privilege access criteria.

(amended) 14. A computer program device, comprising:

a computer program storage device readable by a digital processing apparatus;

a program stored on the program storage device and including instructions executable by the digital processing apparatus for controlling the apparatus to perform a method of ~~managing documents~~ for viewing and modifying an object to allow a user to view and modify a redacted version of ~~the~~ an object stored in ~~the~~ a file, comprising:

establishing an object in a storage location;

identifying a user to have access to the object;

establishing privilege access criteria that define the scope of access of a version of the object for the user;

receiving an object request by a requestor;

verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria; and

transmitting a redacted version of a requested object in the form of a document file containing the redacted version of the requested object ~~that was filtered~~ that is redacted according to the requestor's user privilege access criteria.

(amended) 15. In a computer server having a data base for storing data pertaining to product information, a method of securely transferring data between a source and an access destination comprising:

- establishing an object in a storage location;
- identifying a user to have limited access to the object;
- establishing privilege access criteria that define the scope of access of a version of the object for the user;
- receiving a object request by a requestor;
- verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria;
- setting up a redacted version of an object and associated documents according to user access privileges for transmission to the user; and
- transmitting a the redacted version of the requested object ~~that set up according to the requestor's user privilege access criteria~~, wherein the access criteria defines the information in which a user has privileges of access to the redacted version of the requested object.

(amended) 16. In an application server having access to a data base for storing objects and associated documents, a method of securely transferring a version of an object and associated documents from the application server to a user system via a network comprising:

- establishing privilege access criteria that define the scope of access permitted to a user of a version of an object that may be set up and sent to the privileged user;
- receiving an object request by a user via a network for access to a version of an object to which the user has access privileges;
- verifying the requestor's user privilege access criteria;

setting up a version of an object and associated documents according to user access privileges for transmission to the user; and

transmitting via the network a redacted version of the requested object ~~that was set up according to the requestor's user privilege access criteria~~ in the form of a redacted document file that includes a redacted version of the requested object and a redacted version of associated documents ~~via the network~~.